

Message Text

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16

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10 AID-05 OMB-01 /085 W

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R 311259Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7023

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, GB

SUBJ: BONGO'S VISIT TO BRAZIL AND PERSIAN GULF

REF: A. TEHRAN 10546; B. BRASILIA 9327; C. DOHA 1159

1. PRESIDENT BONGO RETURNED LIBREVILLE OCT 30 AFTER 20-DAY TRIP THAT INCLUDED OFFICIAL VISITS TO BRAZIL (6 DAYS), QATAR (3 DAYS), IRAN (5 DAYS), KUWAIT (3 DAYS), AND BAHRAIN (2 DAYS), AS WELL AS AIRPORT STOPS IN MARRAKECH AND NDJAMENA TO CONFER WITH MOROCCAN KING HASSAN II AND CHADIAN PRESIDENT MALLOUM.

2. AT AIRPORT PRESS CONFERENCE, BONGO TOUCHED LIGHTLY ON RESULTS OF VISITS TO BRAZIL AND IRAN ADDING NOTHING TO INFORMATION CONTAINED REFTELS. OF MORE INTEREST, HE COMMENTED ON TALKS WITH KING HASSAN II AND GENERAL MALLOUM AND IN REPLY TO REPORTERS QUESTIONS GAVE HIS VIEWS OF ANGOLA SITUATION (REPORTED SEPTELS).

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3. COMMENT: TRIP WAS IN TRUE BONGO STYLE, BY PRESIDENTIAL

DC-8, ACCOMPANIED BY FIVE MINISTERS AND OFFICIAL PARTY OF
68 AND EVEN INCLUDING CONVERSIONS TO ISLAM BY MEMBERS OF
PARTY IN QATAR AND KUWAIT. HOWEVER, BONGO'S EFFECT CANNOT
BE JUDGED BY APPEARANCES ALONE AND EMBASSY SUSPECTS HE
BROUGHT BACK USEFUL AGREEMENTS FROM BRASILIA AND TEHRAN
WHICH EXPAND GABON'S MARKETS, DIVERSIFY SOURCES OF CREDIT
AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, AND ENHANCE BONGO'S STATUE ON
WORLD POLITICAL SCENE. STEIGMAN

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